

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040808-5113

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)
Sadami OKADA	)
Application No.: 10/024,279	) Group Art Unit: 2621
Filed: December 21, 2001	) Examiner: Unassigned
For: IMAGE ENCODING DEVICE, IMAGE DECODING DEVICE, ELECTRONIC CAMERA AND RECORDING MEDIUM	RECFIVE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

MAR 2 6 2002

Technology Center 2600

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 § C.F.R. 1.97 (b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the events recited in § 1.97(b).

A copy of each listed document is attached. In addition, a copy of the first page, the relevant pages, and the page with the publishers information for the "Handbook for Image Processing", and for "Computer Image Processing" book, are also attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language document listed:

- 1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 01-307537. The relevance of this document can be understood from the attached English-language abstract.
- 2. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 10-177652. The relevance of this document can be understood from the attached English-language abstract.
  - 3. Computer Image Processing Book:

Fig. 5.3 of page 123 discloses one of Laplace operator for edge detecting ([0082],FIG. 4, etc.).

Fig. 5.6 of page 125 discloses one technique for line-thinning ([0086], FIG. 4, etc.).

Fig. 5.7 of page 126 discloses another technique for line-thinning ([0086], FIG. 4, etc.).

Fig. 5.7 of page 126 discloses another technique for line-thinning ([0086], FIG. 4. etc.).

4. Handbook for Image Processing:

Fig. 13.4 of page 318 discloses a technique for line-thinning(thinning) of binary image ([0086], FIG. 4, etc.).

Fig. 13.8 of page 321 discloses a technique which uses chain code to process smoothing ([0088], FIG. 4, FIG. 6, etc.).

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not

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constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the

Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of

the disclosed invention over the listed document, should one or more of the documents be

applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby

authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this

application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required,

including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR

**EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP** 

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Dated: March 21, 2002

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CHATION

Attorney Docket No. 040808-5113

Application No. 10/024,279

(Use several sheets if negessary) MAR 2 1 2002 Applicant: Sadami OKADA

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PTO Form 1449

Filing Date: December 21, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2621

## PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Da	ate
_	-			******		<b>_</b>	
			17147	DEC	EINE	· V	
,				REC MAI Technol	2 6 20	32	
				WITT	cay Cent	er 2600	
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		EODEICN DA	TENT DOCUMENTS			·	
		FOREIGN PA	ATENT DOCUMENTS				
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES NO	O
	JP05-307537					abstract only	
	JP03-307337	Nov. 19, 1993	Japan			abstract	
	JP10-177652	June 30, 1998	Japan			only	
		OTHER DOC	UMENTS (Including Au	thor, Title, Date	, Pertinent	Pages, Etc.)	
	Hideyuki TAMU Pages 123, 25 an	RA, "Computer Imag	ge Processing", August 19	85, Tokyo, Japan	, Sokenshu	ppan publisher,	•
_	Morio ONUE, "I	Handbook for Image	Processing", June 1987, To	okyo, Japan, Sho	ukodo publ	sher, Pages 318,	, 3

Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if

not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner: